



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/541,593	04/03/2000	Masanori Mukaiyama	Q58612	4884

7590 09/12/2003

Sughrue Mion Zinn Macpeak & Seas
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue N W
Washington, DC 20037-3202

EXAMINER

SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELMI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 09/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/541,593

Applicant(s)

MUKAIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Salad E Abdullahi

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2157

Response

1. The Amendment filed on 5/12/2003 has been entered and made of record.
2. Applicant's arguments filled on 5/12/2003 with respect claims 1-12 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the following reasons:
3. Applicant alleges " contrary to claim 1, the management system of Carcerano does not obtain status information from status information storing part provided in the network device, ***at a time when a request is received*** from a web browser"(see page 5, lines 2-4).

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., obtaining status information from status information storing part provided in the network device ***at a time when a request is received***) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by

Art Unit: 2157

Justice et al (hereinafter "Justice", USPN 6,418,469) in view of Carcerano et al (hereinafter "Carcerano", USPN 6,308,205).

As per claim 1 and 12, Justice teaches a device management network system including a management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (col 1, line 49-55 and col 2, line 62-67);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col 2, line 51-61); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the management server, sending the status information stored in the status information storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (col 2, line 51-61); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col 3, line 4349).

Art Unit: 2157

Justice does not teach a status information obtaining part for, when receiving a device details screen request containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device;

Carcerano teaches a status information obtaining part for, when receiving a device-details screen request containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request by sending the status information request to the network device (col 2, line 35-41). Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the relevant art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to add Carcerano's status information obtaining means to Justice's managing conditions system because this enhance the usability of Justice's system since it would allow the user to obtain status information through a Web browser.

As per claim 4, Justice teaches the device management network system wherein the management server further has functions of the client device (col 2, line 51-67).

As per claim 5, Justice does not teach the device management network system wherein each of the one or more network devices is a network printer.

Art Unit: 2157

As per claim 5, Carcerano teaches the device management network system wherein each of the one or more network devices is a network printer (col 4, line 28-30).

As per claims 6 and 9, Justice teaches a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device identified by the identification information in the device details screen request based on the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (col 3, line 14-22); and an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col 3, line 43-49).

Justice does not teach a status information obtaining part for, when receiving a device details screen request containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information from the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request.

Carcerano teaches a management server to be attached to a network including one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more client devices having a Web browser, the management server comprising: a status information obtaining part for, when receiving a device details screen request containing identification information of a network device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web browser, obtaining status information from the network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request (col 2, line 35-41). Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the relevant art at the time the

Art Unit: 2157

invention was made would have found it obvious to add Carcerano's status obtaining means to Justice's managing conditions system because this enhance the usability of Justice's system since it would allow the user to obtain status information through a Web browser.

3. Claims 2-3, 7-8, 10-11 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Justice et al (hereinafter "Justice", USPN 6,418,469) in view of Carcerano et al (hereinafter "Carcerano", USPN 6,308,205) and further in view of McCormack et al (hereinafter "McCormack", USPN 6,360,255).

As per claims 2, 7 and 10, Justice and Carcerano do not teach the device management network system wherein the information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part.

McCormack teaches the device management network system wherein the information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part (col 5, line 26-30).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the relevant art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to add McCormack's information sending means to Justice and Carcerano's system because this enhance the usability of Justice and Carcerano's system since it would allow the user to send software image files.

network management database) for storing a plurality of image data each of which representing outside appearance of a network device (col 5, line 26-30); and an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data corresponding to the network device

Art Unit: 2157

specified by the identification information in the status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (col 5, line 6-11 and col 6, line 120).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the relevant art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to add McCormack's status information means to Justice and Carcerano's managing conditions system because this enhance the usability of Justice and Carcerano's system since it would allow the user to obtain status information.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

CONCLUSION

• Art Unit: 2157

6. The prior art made of record and relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicants disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Abdullahi E. Salad** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8441**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from **8:30 AM to 5:00 PM**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Etienne, Ario** can be reached at **(703)308-7562**. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is **(703)305-3900**.

Any response to this action should mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

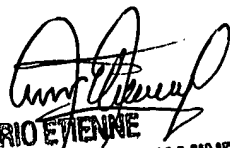
(703) 746-7238, (after final communications)

(703) 746-7239, (Official communications)

(703) 746-7240, (Non-Official/Draft).

As

09/5/2003


ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100